SPECIFICATION OF CLAUSES GOVERNING THE TENDER CALLED BY

I3FLOAT PROJECT CONSORTIUM

TO AWARD THE CONTRACT OF

I3FLOAT - Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap

Nº OF PROCEEDINGS

01/2025

13 of October of 2025

Content

1. Object of the Contract

Elaborate a Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap that identifies the current innovation challenges of the floating offshore wind sector. These challenges, which may be open (general) or specific (defined in collaboration with a Challenge Owner), will be the basis for launching the Open Calls of I3FLOAT project. Additionally, the awarded consultant will support the I3FLOAT consortium in developing T3.1 *Roadmap definition* in WP3 as well as in preparing deliverables D3.1 *I3FLOAT roadmap* and a preliminary version of D5.5 *List of remaining sectorial challenges*.

For the definition of the roadmap, a collaborative intelligence tool must be used, to incorporate feedback from any European company willing to participate. This task also includes the support in the organisation of two workshops in each of the 8 I3FLOAT regions (1) to identify innovation challenges and (2) to present the results and begin the dissemination of the Open Calls.

2. Contracting Body

The Contracting Body will be the BASQUENERGY Cluster, in representation of I3FLOAT consortium, with address at Calle San Vicente nº 8, Edificio Albia II, 4th floor, Department B, 48001 Bilbao.

VAT Number: G48888895
Responsible person at technical level: Marcos Suárez
Phone number: 94 424 02 11
Email: msuarez@basquenergycluster.com

In case you have any questions regarding this tender, please, address your queries to the email in this section.

3. Maximum bid price

Maximum bid price: 44.000€ (VAT not included)

4. Deadline for receipt of proposals

Offers will be collected until **17:00 (CEST) on November 3rd, 2025**.

5. Place of presentation of proposals

The technical-economic offer **will be sent in electronic format to Marcos Suarez, Strategic Areas Director at the BASQUENERGY Cluster (coordinator of I3FLOAT project), to the email msuarez@basquenergycluster.com**.

6. Project execution period and milestones

I3FLOAT project has started the 15th of September 2025. The total execution period of the project will be 36 months, being necessary to include in the offer the milestones that are considered appropriate. The first 12 months of the project will be focused on developing the Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap. These deliverables and the workshops related to it must be delivered before month twelve (12) of I3FLOAT project (before 14th of September 2026).

7. Context of the tender process

7.1 Introduction to the floating wind sector

Turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities is the ambition of the green transition, and floating offshore wind is one of the best examples of how Europe may lead an industrial opportunity that will improve its energy independence while also decarbonising its economy.

Europe seeks to improve its energy security by diversifying its energy sources, decreasing its vulnerability to disruptions in oil and gas supplies. The transition to clean energy also boosts innovation and the green economy, generating jobs and increasing competitiveness; and has a positive impact on public health by reducing air pollution related to the burning of fossil fuels. In fact, reducing the dependency on these fossil fuels is one of the hot topics of the main European policies (e.g. New Europe an Innovation Agenda, European Green Deal, RePower EU) with an increasing concern of keeping the attached generation of wealth in European soil (e.g. Net Zero Industry Act).

To reach the European Green Deal energy and climate goals, and at the same time reduce the European dependency on energy, Europe is investing massively in renewable energy with more than one billion euros destined to investment in infrastructures. The deployment of offshore wind energy is at the core of delivering the European Green Deal.

To ensure that offshore renewable energy gets a relevant role in achieving the European climate targets for 2030 (at least 55% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels; at least 45% share for renewable energy; at least 11.7% reduction of energy consumption) and 2050 (become the first continent to remove as many CO2 emissions as it produces by 2050), the Commission published a dedicated EU Strategy on Offshore Renewable Energy (COM(2020)741) on 19 November 2020 which proposes concrete ways forward to support the long-term sustainable development of this sector. The strategy sets targets for an installed capacity of at least 60 GW of offshore wind by 2030, and 300 GW by 2050. To maximise its impact, it sets the eye on broader issues for this sector such as access to sea-space; regional and international cooperation; industrial and employment dimensions; the technological transfer of research projects from the laboratory into practice.

The total installed offshore wind capacity in the EU in 2023 was 18 GW. Most of the expected dramatical increase in capacity will come from bottom-fixed offshore wind but its requirement

of having depths below 60 metres - very specific to certain locations such as the continental shelf of the North Sea - means that the floating wind alternative will be necessary to achieving current goals of the EU. Floating wind is predominant in the sea basins of southern Europe (e.g. Mediterraneum, Black Sea) with little or no capacity of offshore wind installed up until now.

Unlike traditional offshore wind farms, floating wind technology enables the deployment of wind turbines in deeper water, tapping into previously inaccessible wind resources. The constant development of novel solutions in this field will improve efficiency, reduce costs, and increase the viability of floating wind power projects; as well as consolidate the European leading international role in the development of this sector.

Floating wind energy is also a key technology for outermost regions, many of them currently depending on CO2 emitting (and expensive) energy sources, as room is limited for a significant solar or onshore wind deployment. For instance, the Canary Islands (which are represented in the consortium by the partner CMC) will be at the core of the first floating wind project auction in Spain, expected in early 2025.

It is worth mentioning also that floating wind development is not taking place only of Europe. Many other parts of the world, such as China, Japan, Korea or the west coast of the USA, will also depend on this option, with different studies aiming at a global installed capacity of 70 GW in 2040 and 300 GW in 2050.

At the same time, the EU is the world industrial leader in floating offshore wind development. Europe has been at the forefront of floating wind energy development, driven by a combination of government policies, private sector investment, and academic research. The first floating wind turbines were deployed off the coast of Norway in 2009 as part of the Hywind project (developed by Equinor, formerly Statoil), and Europe has continued to lead with several ambitious projects, including the DemoSATH project in Spain, three soon-to-be-operational 25MW demonstration projects in France or Hywind Tampen, also in Norway, which is currently the largest floating wind farm in the world. Such projects provide proof of concept and pave the way for larger-scale deployment. Out of approximately 230MW in the world, only 24MW are located outside Europe.

However, this position must not be taken for granted, with other countries, mostly Chinese competitors, quickly developing their own capabilities. As an example, as recent as in august 2024, Mingyang Group deployed OceanX, the largest floating wind platform in the world, with two 8.3-MW turbines in a V-shape.

7.2 Introduction to I3FLOAT project

I3FLOAT “Developing a southern interregional value chain to consolidate European leadership in floating wind and accelerate innovation time-to-market” is a project financed by the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA), under the powers delegated by the European Commission, through the instrument INTERREGIONAL INNOVATION INVESTMENTS (I3-2024-INV1). Its expected duration is 36 months starting in September 2025.

The I3FLOAT project aims to develop a southern interregional value chain to consolidate the European leadership in floating wind development and accelerate innovation time-to-market.

This ambition will be possible thanks to the coordination and experience from the ELBE EUROCLUSTER that has defined a balanced q-helix ecosystem connecting balanced collaboration between More Developed Regions (2 - Basque Country and Flanders), In Transition Regions (2 – Occitanie & PACA and Canary Islands, also outermost region) and Less Developed Regions (LDR) (4 – Campania, West Pomerania, Andalusia and Varna).

Figure 1 – Consortium of I3FLOAT

In particular, I3FLOAT will work on the development of interregional innovations investments in three different levels:

1) Interregional innovation investments developed in collaboration by floating foundation developers (FFD) and suppliers (I3FLOAT pilot teams) from different regions, including at least one supplier from an LDR, addressing current bottlenecks from the floating wind sector, as framed in the ETIP WIND Floating Offshore Wind roadmap. There are 4 pilots addressing 10 innovation investments (see the Figure 2 – I3FLOAT pilot teams).

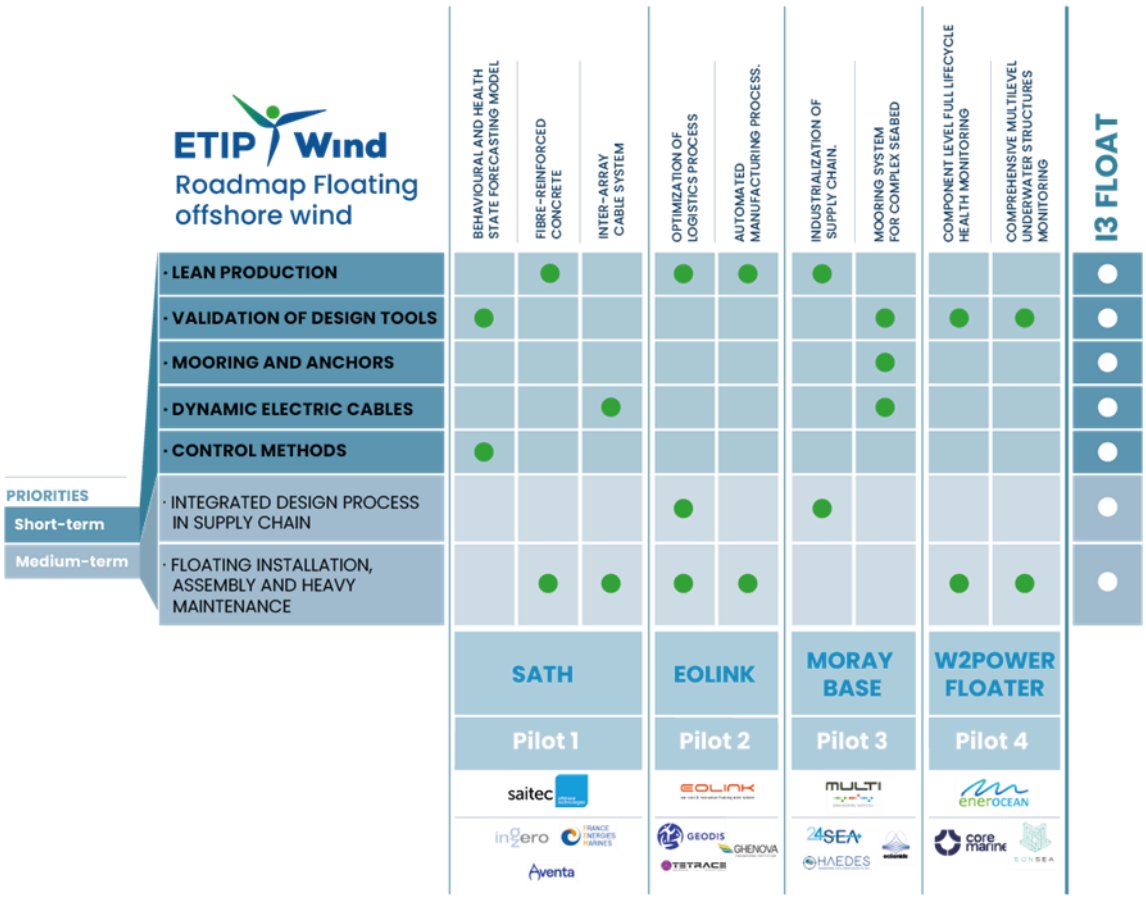

Figure 2 – I3FLOAT pilot teams

2) Additional innovation investments as part of a newly defined open roadmap for the floating wind sector that will identify additional challenges that be tackled by SMEs as part of the I3FLOAT Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP) program, some of them in collaboration with key stakeholders (challenge owners) which are going to be I3FLOAT partners (FFD and suppliers) and members of the I3 Advisory Board, which will be formed by relevant international companies of the sector, such as Jan de Nul, EDF, Ocean Winds or Navantia Seanergies.
3) The optimisation of public private collaboration for additional innovation investments as part of the collaboration with the S3 Board.

For addressing the second level, first the I3FLOAT Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap will be done defining the challenges of the sector that must be addressed. These challenges are proposed with the main objective of redefining the innovation roadmap of the sector by identifying the remaining challenges through the collaboration of stakeholders. After that, the consortium will build two cascade funding programmes or "Open Calls" to address those challenges.

- Specific challenges: Testing or demonstration actions towards the development of a new or improved technology, service, product, production process. Key stakeholders

(I3FLOAT FFDs and Suppliers as well as I3 Advisory Board members) will act as challenge owners and the third parties will develop investment projects in the defined challenges.

- Open challenges: Transfer technology and adaptation actions of key enabling technologies. It will open the participation to other SMEs from LDR that may not be intensive in the sector, fostering their diversification into Floating Offshore Wind. Key enabling technologies include technologies from other sectors such as, notably, digital or aerospace sector, that can find suitable applications in the FOW sector.

I3FLOAT clusters will also develop support activities in the areas of internationalisation, training and financial advisory with the goal of strengthening, connecting, and expanding the European industrial value chains.

7.3 Objectives of I3FLOAT

I3FLOAT aims to have a critical role in strengthening EU's position in the floating wind sector. Europe is the technological leader of this sector and to not lose track of this train, investments need to be done to mobilise innovative projects that will guarantee the sustainability of the sector and the autonomy of Europe, both energetically and technologically. In particular, the South of Europe has the fundamentals to be amongst the first commercial hubs for floating wind – an established onshore wind sector, transferable shipbuilding capabilities and competitive site conditions. As this side of Europe is lagging behind in terms of investments done in other sea basins (i.e. North Sea), the I3FLOAT project will act as catalyser to step up the market uptake of this technology and impact in the whole European floating wind value chain.

In this sense, five specific objectives (SO) have been defined:

1. **SO1: Capitalise Innovation in Floating Wind Technology by mobilising innovation investments in southern European regions.**

Europe is the current world leader in floating wind technology and industrial development, but this leadership needs to be supported in order to be guaranteed in the long run. If the European Union wants to take full advantage of the opportunities of the twin-transition, the innovation stream must remain strong in the following decades. China already surpassed Europe in solar energy and now it could end being the same situation with wind energy. Southern European waters are key in this paradigm, as they have the best conditions to boost the installation of floating platforms and the development of enabling floating technologies that will strengthen the sector in Europe.

In this scenario, I3FLOAT will be working to maintain this leadership and set the pathway to the q-helix actors to answer the challenges of the sector that will enable to maximize the exploitation of an affordable, secure and green energy. In particular, the project will do so by investing 6.3 M€ in already 10 selected floating wind innovative projects that will be validated in 4 different floating wind pilots from which, 3 are located in European southern regions (Andalusia, Basque Country, Occitanie & PACA), and the other one in Belgium (Flanders region). Those investments will be implemented by 15 I3FLOAT companies, mostly SMEs, in the sector from 8 different regions and will answer address challenges already established in the ETIP WIND Floating Offshore Wind roadmap. These innovations will start at TRL6+ and reach TRL 7-9 at the

end of the project, where their pathway to the market will be clearly established. In addition to this, the project has defined a FSTP programme to fund small projects for up to 60k€ per SME that will answer future challenges of the sector.

2. SO2: Establish Interregional Collaboration ecosystems between More Developed Regions and Less Developed regions.

I3FLOAT aims to build interconnected, inclusive innovation ecosystems across European regions with different levels of development by drawing on the existing strengths of national, regional and local ecosystems and pulling in new, less well represented actors and territories to set, undertake, and achieve collective ambitions towards challenges for the benefit of society, including the green, digital, and social transitions. The concept of I3FLOAT comes from previous collaborative projects, such as ELBE EUROCLUSTER, where the core consortium (several of the clusters present in the I3FLOAT consortium) is already part of a successful Interregional Collaboration ecosystem. The good work carried out in this project, along with prior ones (ELBE and ELBE+) is proof that the I3FLOAT partnership is capable of setting new Interregional Collaboration Ecosystems in this particular area, with the involvement of actors from the q-helix.

To carry out the 50 innovation investment, 8 regional ecosystems will be working all together in order to build on the strengths of the different regions and generate synergies between More Developed Regions and Less Developed Regions to maximize the uptake, scaleup and commercialisation of the solutions developed and validated within the project. This ecosystem will be composed by stakeholders from different environments and regions, with on one side the interregional innovation investments carried out by the four I3 innovation hubs or pilots (10 in total) and on the other side the innovation investments from the Open Calls that will gather third parties (SMEs) together with FFD or key stakeholders that have signed their support to the project to take part of the I3 Advisory Board (40 projects funded). The FFD and the companies will take the role of challenge owners, supporting the innovation development of the SMEs and bringing to the table their experience and knowledge of the sector that will enhance the exploitation, and the impact of the solutions developed. On top of that, 8 clusters will act as Hubs for the project, with 4 Innovation Hubs (composed mainly by the clusters from the ELBE EUROCLUSTER - BEC, PMM and DBC - and CLANER, as new LDR representative) and 4 Connecting Nodes (3 LDR and 1 outermost) that will have a transversal role in the project, supporting and expanding the interregional ecosystems created.

3. SO3: Strengthen Industrial Value Chains in Less Developed Regions and Outermost Regions

As part of the vision of I3FLOAT, not only the European frontrunners have to be leading the technological developments, but also LDR need to boost their own innovation ecosystems. In fact, a value chain is as strong as its weakest link. One of the main purposes of I3FLOAT is to leave no one behind in the technological race and to that aim, focusing the I3FLOAT scope to less developed and outermost regions is fundamental. Floating wind energy is a very relevant energy alternative for outermost and less developed regions where the energy cost is high enough to be a market barrier. This is one of the reasons that I3FLOAT will make an extra effort

to promote and disseminate the Open Calls as one great opportunity for SMEs from these regions.

In this sense, I3FLOAT consortium includes 4 regional clusters from LDR (Andalusia, Campania, West Pomerania and Varna), with one of them (Andalusia, CLANER) with a relevant role in the project coordinating an Innovation Hub and as leader of WP5. On the other hand, the outermost regions will be represented in the project by CMC (Canary Island) that will help in the task of promoting the calls amongst its business community and also network with other outermost regions, expanding the ecosystem so the project can impact the whole European value chain. Martinique and Madeira have already expressed their commitment and interest on the project results and promotion of the project Open Calls.

With all this, I3FLOAT is putting real effort in attracting participants both to the FSTP programme and the tailored support services that the project will give, mobilising innovation investments in those regions. This effort is also accompanied by the involvement of other regions that have already signed their support to the project. The project counts with the support of associations and clusters from Portugal (WavEC, ACIF), Rumania (Cluj IT, GTC)), Bulgaria (Bulgaria Digital Cluster) and Greece (Strategis), representing some of the other main emerging markets for the future of the floating wind sector, together with Latvia (Cleantech Latvia), Lithuania (Jürinis) and Poland (Pomorskie Voivodeship), representing a relevant industrial component of the floating wind value chain. All this effort and stakeholders put together will indeed boost the technology developments in the LDR affected, strengthening their industrial value chain and serving as role model and example for other European regions and generating a domino effect in the rest of the European regions.

4. SO4: Support SMEs as key actors to guarantee the industrial leadership in the floating wind sector.

SMEs are the backbone of Europe, representing 99% of companies in the EU. They provide two thirds of private sector jobs and contribute to more than half of the total added value created by businesses in the EU. The consortium is much aware of that fact, and reflection of that fact is that, out of the 1,200 members of the 8 participating clusters, SMEs represent the 77% of the companies within this clusters. I3FLOAT will focus its main efforts in supporting SMEs, which have a key role in improving the sustainability and digitalisation of the Floating Wind sector. Indeed, the role of SMEs as technology developers in the Energy Sector and the Floating Wind is of high relevance, taking SAITEC (member of the consortium) as an example, with the first floating offshore wind pilot in Spain to be connected to the grid. SAITEC does not count as an SME for the project because its status changed in 2024, but it also shows the potential of the floating wind sector to boost SMEs and deeply impact on their growth. Within the project, companies will get 83% of the total budget and SMEs will reach 77% of the total budget, reflecting the relevance of mobilising investments into companies present in the industrial value chain.

5. SO5: Foster Public-Private Partnerships to expand Floating Offshore Wind in Europe.

According to the ETIP WIND Floating Offshore Wind roadmap, wider regulatory frameworks are needed in order to expand floating offshore wind and tap into the massive offshore resources while securing the technology leadership of European companies on the global market. Aligned with this spirit, I3FLOAT not only has gathered the endorsement and commitment of all 8 regions participating in the project, but also has shaped an S3 Board that will collaborate with the consortium in defining public R&D and industrial policies that will facilitate the development of floating wind companies in I3FLOAT regions, thus contributing to ensuring European leadership in this strategic area for energy transition and security. This will be done via participation in at least one annual meeting that will be held in a hybrid format as part of international key events.

The objective of I3FLOAT here is to foster public-private collaboration that will help to develop the Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap of the project containing the status of the sector and the future challenges to address. In addition, the collaboration with the public sector will allow the project to build on the strengths and weakness of the S3 strategies of the different regions. This framework will be beneficial to guarantee also the sustainability of I3FLOAT results and the investment portfolio.

7.4 Work Package structure of the project

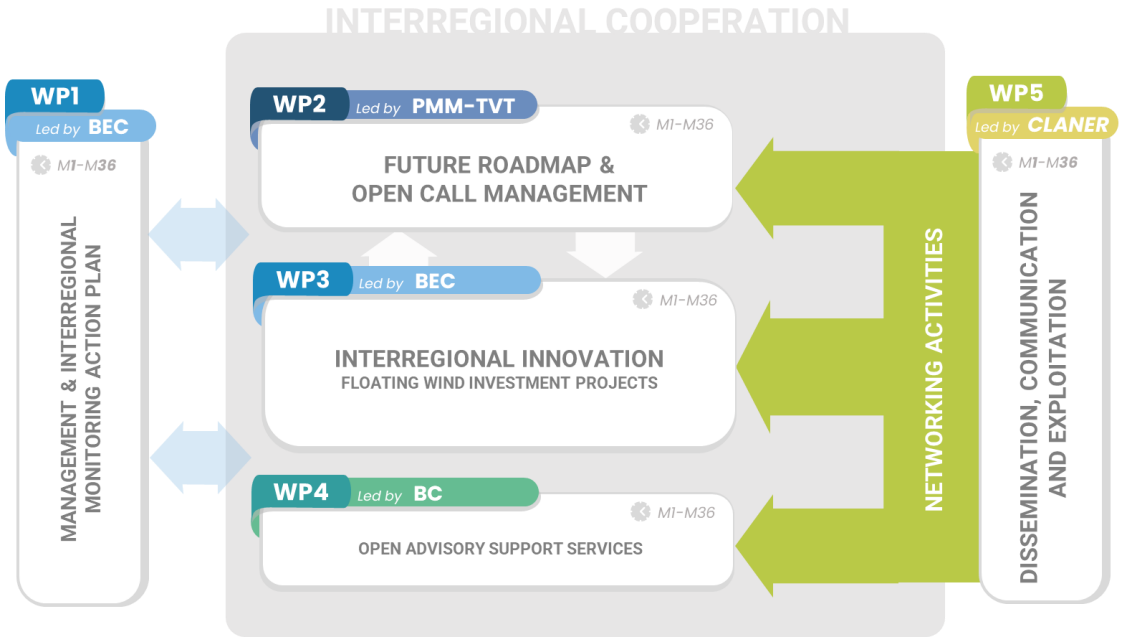

Figure 3 – I3FLOAT Work Package structure

7.5 Schedule of the project

*The I3FLOAT project starts the 15th of September 2025

	2025	2026				2027				2028		
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Task 1.1 Technical coordination, monitoring, and risk management												
Task 1.2 Administrative and financial management and reporting												
Task 1.3 Data Management												
Task 2.1 SATH floating platform innovation investments.												
Tasl 2.2 Pyramidal floating platform innovation investments												
Task 2.3 MORAY base FW platform innovation investments												
Task 2.4 W2Power Floater platform innovation investments												
Task 2.5 Coordination of I3 investments												
Task 3.1 Roadmap definition												
Task 3.2 Innovation support scheme design												
Task 3.3 Open Call management												
Task 3.4 Implementation & monitoring of successful projects												
Task 4.1 Networking and Scale-up support												
Task 4.2 Financial Support Services												
Task 4.3 Valorisation Advisory Services												
Task 5.1 Networking and Stakeholder Engagement												
Task 5.2 Dissemination Activities and Strategy												
Task 5.3 Communication Activities and Strategy												
Taks 5.4 Exploitation of Results												

Figure 4 – Schedule of the project I3FLOAT

7.6 WP3 – Floating wind energy future challenges & open call management

The objective of this WP is twofold: i) develop a Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap for the future with the participation of stakeholders from different environments, defining the future challenges/bottlenecks of the sector and; ii) mobilise funding for SMEs to develop and implement innovative solutions to these upcoming challenges/bottlenecks of the Floating Wind Energy sector through 2 Open Calls in which SMEs (with a focus on LDR that aim to build their own value chain) will be able to provide innovative technological solutions to the addressed challenges.

I3FLOAT will develop a cascade funding programme (FSTP) managed by the clusters in the partnership, in which FFD, companies from the consortium and members from the I3 Advisory Board, will act as Challenge Owners (defining the innovation challenge and, later on, supporting and advising the SMEs).

I3FLOAT project intends to implement a FSTP mechanism through 2 Open Calls for proposals, providing beneficiaries a direct financial support in the form of grants. This mechanism will be designed in adequation with the general principles of the European Commission guidelines, such as excellence, transparency, fairness and impartiality, confidentiality and efficiency.

This innovation support mechanism will be organised in 3 phases (see Figure 5 – I3FLOAT FSTP methodology).

Figure 5 – I3FLOAT FSTP methodology

Phase 1 "Roadmap definition" corresponds to Task 3.1 *Roadmap definition*; phase 2 "Open call definition & management" corresponds to Task 3.2 *Innovation support scheme design* and Task 3.3 *Open Call management*; and phase 3 "Follow-up of beneficiaries" corresponds to Task 3.4 *Implementation & monitoring of successful projects*.

8. Scope of the tender process

8.1 T3.1. Roadmap definition (M01 - M12)

The I3FLOAT Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap will be a participative roadmap that focuses on the upcoming bottlenecks of the floating wind sector and that will serve as challenges for the Open Calls. With at least two workshops per participating region. These workshops will count with the participation of the different Advisory Board members (both S3 and I3 Advisory Boards), that will be invited to assess the progress on the document and share their vision on the different issues treated. Online collaborative intelligence tools will be used in order to ensure participation of the main stakeholders envisaged.

BASQUENERGY Cluster (BEC) will follow on its own experience developing technology roadmaps in the energy area and will coordinate the task. Having in mind that this sector does not count with a recent widely accepted roadmap, the consortium finds necessary to define the pathway to follow in the short and midterm to guarantee the European leadership in this sector. The first year of the project will be devoted to defining the Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap containing the remaining bottlenecks of the sector for the near future. This document will have as output the definition of different challenges that will be open to the SMEs participating in the cascade funding, with a budget of 60k€ per participant to address those challenges. For the elaboration of the document, BEC will subcontract the use an online collaborative intelligence tool to gather in a decentralized and asynchronous way the different ideas from the cluster and prioritize in a collaborative manner the ideas to be selected for defining the future floating wind challenges together with the rest of the clusters and consortium.

In this sense, the private members of the consortium (FFD) and members of the I3 Advisory Board will act as technical advisors to BEC in the roadmap definition and in the Open Calls will

act as coordinators of challenges in their specific areas (e.g., design, manufacturing, logistics, O&M – to be defined in accordance with the scope of their respective innovations).

Challenge Owners will act as supporters of the SMEs participating in the Open Calls, advising in the development of their innovations and even in some cases granting access to their infrastructure and/or data in order to validate them.

The Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap will be a participative initiative with at least two open workshops in each of the participating regions (approx. M5 & M10) to identify innovation challenges and present the results obtained. These workshops will count with the participation of the regional stakeholders and Advisory Board members (both S3 and I3 Advisory Boards), which will be invited to assess the progress on the document and share their vision on the different issues treated. Also, civil society and academia representatives will be invited to these workshops to enhance the q-helix dimension of the project and maximize the impact of I3FLOAT outcomes, including current members of the clusters participating in the project (i.e. Reseaclons, Planète Mer, Septentrion Environnement among others). Collaborative intelligence online tools will be used in order to ease participation of the stakeholders and identify, develop and prioritize challenges. The final document will be presented to the S3 Board on M14 to obtain their insights on how this policy document will impact on their regional priorities.

8.2 Deliverables

The development of the Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap will result in two deliverables with the following structure:

- **D3.1 – I3FLOAT roadmap [deadline: month: 12]**
  I3FLOAT Roadmap reviewed by the S3 Board.
- **D5.5 – List of remaining sectorial challenges [deadline: month 12]**
  Report that Comprehensively assess the project's influence on the floating wind sector, including innovation, policy changes, and sector growth.

The report related to D5.5 will be preliminary as it will be updated at the end of the project, thus it should be defined and developed considering this future change (which will focus mostly on including which innovations have been developed as part of the open calls, addressing the challenges defined in the roadmap).

8.3 Specific support tasks

The scope of the tender includes all tasks related to leading, coordinating, preparing the necessary materials and developing the deliverables. They are included, but not limited to:

- Definition of the structure/agenda, methodology and elaboration of presentations for the two workshops.
- Launch and management of a collaborative intelligence tool and, if necessary, a manual of how to use it.
- Definition of templates to collect information for the open and specific innovation challenges (using as a preliminary approximation the examples shown in Annex 2).

- Description of open challenges as with the above templates, as well as support to I3FLOAT partners in the interaction with challenge owners when describing specific challenges.
- Elaboration of Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap (D3.1), which is expected to be a Word document with an additional PowerPoint general presentation including an overall overview of the roadmap.
- Elaboration of List of remaining sectorial challenges (D5.5), as a preliminary version of a report that comprehensively assesses the project's influence on the floating wind sector, including innovation, policy changes, and sector growth.

All the documents delivered must be in an editable format (Word, PowerPoint).

On the other hand, among other tasks, BASQUENERGY Cluster and I3FLOAT partners will be responsible for:

- Identification and interaction with I3 Board members.
- Organisation, call and development of regional workshops (consultants are expected only to attend the two workshops of at least one of the regions).
- Technical overview of the roadmap definition, which will be done with the support of the BASQUENERGY Cluster and I3FLOAT FFDs.

8.4 Milestones

Jany 2026 – Feb 2026	Initial workshop (WS1) at each participating region to identify innovation challenges.
Jan 2026 – May 2026	Online collaborative intelligence tool to identify, develop and prioritize challenges.
June 2026	Challenge definition for the Open Calls.
Jun 2026 – Jul 2026	Second workshop (WS2) at each participating region to present result and begin dissemination of Open Calls.
September 2026	Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap delivery.

9. Awarding criteria

The general criteria that must serve as the basis for the award are those established in the following table.

Technical and economic criteria		
Criteria	**Description**	**Score**
1	**Experience in the analysis of innovation challenges and definition of technology roadmaps in the energy sector, specifically, in floating wind**	**30**
2	**Proposed work plan & methodology including in-build flexibility and collaborative intelligence tools**	**25**
3	**Knowledge of challenges and business opportunities of the floating wind sector**	**15**
4	**Economic proposal**	**30**

The evaluation of the economic proposal will be made based on the proposal with the lowest cost, assigning 30 points to said proposal. The rest of the offers presented will be valued using the following formula:

$$Economic\ proposal = 30 \times \frac{Lowest\ bid\ amount}{Amount\ of\ evaluated\ offer}$$

A tender will be considered recklessly low or abnormally low when its economic proposal is 50% lower than the average of all received economic proposals. In such a case, before proceeding to exclude the tender, BASQUENERGY Cluster shall require the tenderer to submit a reasoned and detailed justification of the viability of its proposal. If, after analysing the documentation submitted, BASQUENERGY Cluster concludes that the tender is not sufficiently substantiated or that it is unfeasible for the proper performance of the contract under the required terms, it may decide to exclude it from the award procedure.

10. Extensions

No extensions will be allowed due to the need of complying with the project calendar.

11. Bid budget

The price of the contract will be that resulting from the award thereof, and will include, as an independent item, the VAT.

Other applicable taxes, fees and royalties of any kind are considered to be included in the contract price, as well as all expenses that arise for the Contractor as a result of the fulfilment of the obligations contemplated in these Specifications (general expenses , financial, benefits, insurance, transportation and travel, fees of the technical personnel in charge, visas, etc.).

12. Confidentiality

The principle of confidentiality will be respected through the assumption by the successful tenderer of the obligation not to disclose the information provided by I3FLOAT consortium that they have designated as confidential, provided there are justified causes for it, and, in particular, technical or commercial secrets and confidential aspects of the offers. Likewise, the application of this principle will require that the successful tenderer must respect the confidential nature of the information to which he has access during the presentation of offers, negotiation and / or the execution of the contract to which this character had been given in the specifications or in the contract, or that by its very nature should be treated as such.

13. Language of propositions

The documentation of the proposal and the documentation drawn up during the project will be in English.

14. Proposal documentation

The tenderer shall submit the following technical documentation:

- Technical proposal: work methodology, phases and tasks.
- Project planning: Calendar of the work to be carried out.
- Experience in similar sectors and projects.
- List of deliverables, including at least D3.1 *I3FLOAT roadmap* and D5.*5 List of remaining sectorial challenges*.

The economic proposal will be presented electronically and signed according to the proposal model in ANNEX 1 of these Specifications. The amount corresponding to VAT will appear in any case as a separate item. The total price will be broken down, distinguishing the different phases of the work plan.

In the event of a discrepancy between the amount indicated in number and letter, the letter will prevail.

15. Basic criteria for the selection of the offer

BASQUENERGY Cluster, if the tender is not declared void, will have the power to award the contract to the globally most advantageous proposal, taking into account the evaluation criteria reflected in section I.

When BASQUENERGY Cluster reasonably presumes that a proposal cannot be fulfilled as a consequence of disproportionate or reckless withdrawals, it may decide to exclude it from the process.

16. Selection of the Contractor company

Once the bidder who has made the most advantageous bid for I3FLOAT consortium has been selected, all bidders will be notified by email at the address they have provided in their bid.

The maximum term for the evaluation and selection of the Contractor will be fifteen (15) days, counting from the date of completion of the term for submitting proposals. After this period has elapsed without notification of said agreement, if they deem it appropriate, the bidders may express their intention to withdraw their proposal.

The selected company must submit to the BASQUENERGY Cluster, within a maximum period of ten (10) business days from when it is requested, the following documents:

- Positive certification by the State Tax Administration Agency certifying that they are up to date in the fulfilment of their tax obligations, and / or by the Local Entity corresponding with respect to their taxes; also accrediting the registration referred to the current fiscal year or the last receipt of the Tax on Economic Activities, completed with a declaration responsible for not having de-registered from the aforementioned tax.

- Positive certification accrediting being up to date in complying with their obligations with Social Security.

17. Ownership of the work carried out and treatment of personal data

The product that is the object of the Contract will remain the property of BASQUENERGY Cluster, reserving its use, and this, consequently, may at any time request the delivery of the documents or materials that comprise it, with all their antecedents, data or procedures.

The Contractor, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679, of April 14, will process the information to which it has access during the execution of the contract according to the instructions issued by BASQUENERGY Cluster and will not use it for a purpose other than that of the contract, nor will it communicate them to other people.

18. Termination of the contract

The contract will be terminated by its conclusion or fulfilment or by its resolution. In addition to those mentioned in these Specifications, the following will be grounds for termination of the Contract:

- In the event that during the execution of the contract, and as a result of actions by third parties, the execution of the contract becomes technically or economically unviable, the resolution of the contract will proceed, in the reasoned judgment of BASQUENERGY Cluster, paying the Contractor exclusively for the works commissioned and effectively executed by the Contractor until the moment the consortium agrees to the resolution, without any compensation or claim of any kind from the Contractor to the consortium.
- The delay by the Contractor in the fulfilment of the term of execution of the works object of the contract.
- Failure to comply with the remaining essential contractual obligations. The occurrence of any of these causes, under the established terms, will empower BASQUENERGY Cluster to terminate the contract, with compensation for damages and other effects that may proceed in its favour in accordance with these Specifications and the applicable regulations, and may , in addition, opt for the subsidiary execution, performing the unfulfilled obligations or continuing the execution of the works by itself or through the persons or companies that it determines, at the expense of the Contractor.

ANNEX 1 [ECONOMIC PROPOSAL]

Mr / Ms: .....
Identification number: .....
On behalf of the company: .....
With VAT number: .....
With offices (address): .....
.....
what I certify in the manner provided in the Basic Contracting Conditions, states the following:

1. That I am aware of the call by the I3FLOAT Consortium of the TENDER for the award of the contract for "**I3FLOAT - Floating Wind Innovation Roadmap**".
2. That I have examined, and I am aware of the Specific Terms and Conditions governing said Contract.
3. That I find conformity, voluntarily submit and accept in full and without variation, all the aspects of said Specifications.

That I undertake to carry out the aforementioned contract in accordance with the total and maximum amount of […] euros plus […] euros of VAT, and which is broken down as follows:

[Place, date and signature]

ANNEX 2 [EXAMPLES OF CHALLENGES DESCRIPTIONS]

In the following pages there are examples of one-page challenges descriptions that were defined in previous exercise.

Description of challenge – Innovation Financial Support
ELBE EUROCLUSTER

Title: Transfer to sea methodologies	
Challenge owner: Iberdrola Renewables	**Country:** Spain
Topic: Installation	

Challenge origination and background:

Through previous R&D and tender projects that aimed to set up the load out methodology.

Transfer to sea is a key operation when setting large project execution plans. The process is constrained by floating wind structures weight and shape in combination with port facilities conditions. With current methods used for fixed offshore wind or shipbuilding industry it is expected to be a complex operation in offshore floating wind. Furthermore, the operation is highly affected by the tidal range which limits the available window for operation. Consequently, when executing a large-scale project, load out could represent a bottleneck in the fabrication process.

Challenge description:

Transfer to sea can create a bottleneck when executing a large-scale project. This shall be performed in a safe and smooth manner. The solution to this challenge needs to improve the load out methodologies for large and heavy structures, minimize the cost of load out operation, increase safety and mitigate risks.

Potential solutions:

The SME will provide transfer to sea innovative solutions.
The SME will develop a load out method statement for two floating structures.
The SME will develop a preliminary design for a launching asset.
The SME will assess the cost of the most promising solution.

Commitment from the challenge owner:

The challenge owner will provide technical data from two floating wind structures.
The challenge owner will set the base case scenario for load out operation.
The challenge owner will meet at least 3 times with the SME (kick off, follow up and wrap up meeting).

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Description of challenge – Innovation financial support
ELBE EUROCLUSTER

Title: Multi-task versatile Unmanned Autonomous Vehicle (UAV) system to support underwater offshore O&M activities within an Offshore Wind Farm	
Challenge owner: Ocean Winds	**Country:** Poland
Topic: Operation & Maintenance	

Challenge origination and background:

Offshore Wind Farms require inspection, security surveillance, rescue support and corrective and preventive maintenance for Wind Turbines, Wind Turbines Substructure, Offshore Substation, Inter Array and Export Cables. The maintenance program for an Offshore Wind Farm is complex and requires many visits and actions from the O&M team during the entire life of the project, being underwater activities specially challenging. A solution is required to improve and optimize all these offshore underwater activities by minimizing the technician and manned vessels engagement needs, thus reducing the human intervention risks and minimizing the overall carbon footprint.

Challenge description:

Offshore Wind Farms require inspection, security surveillance, rescue support and corrective and preventive maintenance for Wind Turbines, Wind Turbines Substructure, Offshore Substation, Inter Array and Export Cables. The maintenance program for an Offshore Wind Farm is complex and requires many visits and actions from the O&M team during the entire life of the project, being underwater activities specially challenging. A solution is required to improve and optimize all these offshore underwater activities by minimizing the technician and manned vessels engagement needs, thus reducing the human intervention risks and minimizing the overall carbon footprint.

The UAV system should be able to provide at least the following capabilities:

1. Inspections:
    - Regular inspection of Offshore Wind Turbine and Offshore Substation underwater substructures and cabling (Inter Array and Export).
    - Periodical inspection and monitoring of seabed and marine life environment.
2. Transport:
    - Surface transport of spare components from O&M base to the Offshore Wind Farm location.
3. Security:
    - Securing the Offshore Wind Farm in the event of any incident in the site area by checking and sending remotely the incident data to O&M control room.
4. Rescue:
    - Assist the rescue team in the event of incident especially in the limited and poor visibility conditions to locate and immediately pinpoint the place of incident.

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Potential solutions:

The UAV system should be able to operate in a double mode:

1. AUV (Autonomous Underwater Vehicle)
    a. Inspection of the subsea structures and equipment (i.e.: ICCP, CPS) – wind farm integrity monitoring.
    b. Monitoring and marine data acquisition – environmental campaigns.
2. USV (Unmanned Surface Vessel)
    a. Inspection of Wind Farm area/ structures/ equipment, transport items from O&M base to Offshore Wind Farm site.

Functional Requirements:
The UAV shall have sufficient range to travel from the O&M base to the Offshore Wind Farm area and come back to O&M base and / or dock in the dedicated place in the Offshore Substation to charge.

Commitment from the challenge owner:

Ocean Winds will provide the project location data and operational functional requirement input and functional support.

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Description of challenge – Innovation financial support
ELBE EUROCLUSTER

Title: Control system development for floating Vertical Axis Wind Turbine (VAWT)	
Challenge owner: SeaTwirl AB	**Country:** Sweden
Topic: Control system	

Challenge origination and background:

Controlling a floating wind turbine poses significant challenges, as the foundation is moving and the environment (wind, waves, sea current, tide) will influence the measurements used for control of the turbine. A well-designed control system is not only a safety issue, but directly influences the unit cost and LCOE of the produced electricity. For a vertical-axis floating turbine the challenge is enhanced, as little prior research and development has been performed.

Challenge description:

The challenge is to develop a controller for a floating VAWT. The controller should be able to control the turbine at windspeeds from 1 to 25 m/s. At higher wind speeds the turbine closes down. The controller is to be implemented as a function in the software "DeepLines Wind", which is being used to simulate the complete behaviour of the wind turbine. For a developer with previous experience, we anticipate approx. 6 months of work for one FT (Full Time Engineer).

Potential solutions:

The solution is a function implemented in DeepLines Wind. There already exists working examples of this function, the functions, however, need to be developed and adapted to the requirements and complexities of the large turbines being developed currently.

The challenge owner already has working examples of a control system for a smaller turbine. The larger turbine will include more mechanical components, that need to be included in the control system for optimal performance.

Commitment from the challenge owner:

The challenge owner would work in close contact with the challenge up-taker, as the mechanical components in the turbine will impose direct constraints on what the control system can require from the mechanical system (regulation speeds, accelerations, braking power etc.). Thus, the work is a development work that needs to be undertaken in close collaboration.

The challenge owner will meet at least once a week with the SMEs and give access to facilities/data/ as required to solve the task.

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